

Amendment dated March 10, 2005
Amendment After Allowance

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A process for coloring keratin fibers comprising:

(a) applying a pretreatment composition onto keratin fibers, wherein the pretreatment composition comprises at least one substantive dye and at least one fiber-structure-improving agent selected from the group consisting of panthenol, one or more physiologically compatible panthenol derivatives, one or more plant ~~extracts~~ extracts, honey extracts [or] and combinations thereof; and

(b) applying to the keratin fibers a coloring composition comprising at least one oxidation dye precursor or synthetic substantive dye or combinations thereof, after applying the pretreatment composition.

19. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 18, wherein the pretreatment composition is applied to the keratin fibers by spraying.

20. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 18 wherein the substantive dye of the pretreatment composition is selected from one or more nitrobenzene derivatives, basic substantive dyes or triphenylmethane derivatives, or combinations thereof.

21. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 20 wherein the substantive dye is selected from 3-nito-4-aminophenol, 4-(3'-hydroxypropylamino)-3-nitrophenol, 1,4(bis-(β -hydroxyethyl)-amino-2-nitrobenzene, 1-(β -hydroxyethylamino)-2-nitro-4-aminobenzene, 1-

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(β -hydroxyethylamino)-2-nitrobenzene, 4-(β -hydroxyethylamino)-3-nitrophenol, HC Blue 2, Basic Blue 99, Basic Red 76, Basic Brown 16 or Basic Brown 17, or combinations thereof.

22. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 21 wherein the substantive dye is present in the pretreatment composition in an amount of 0.001 weight percent to 20 weight percent, based on the total weight of the pretreatment composition.

23. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 22 wherein the substantive dye is present in the pretreatment composition in an amount of 0.005 weight percent to 5 weight percent, based on the total weight of the pretreatment composition.

28. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 18 wherein the pretreatment composition is contacted with the keratin fibers for 1 to 30 minutes before applying the coloring composition.

29. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 28 wherein the pretreatment composition is contacted with the keratin fibers for 1 to 10 minutes before applying the coloring composition.

30. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 18 wherein the pretreatment composition has a pH in the range from 3 to 9.

31. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 30 wherein the pretreatment composition has a pH ranging in the range from 4 to 8.

33. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 18 wherein the oxidative dye precursor comprises at least one primary intermediate selected from p-phenylenediamine, p-toluylenediamine, p-aminophenol, 1-(2'-hydroxyethyl)-2,5-diaminobenzene, 4-amino-3-methylphenol, 2-aminomethyl-4-aminophenol or 2,4,5,6-tetraaminopyrimidine, or combinations thereof.

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34. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 33 wherein the oxidative dye precursor further comprises at least one secondary intermediate selected from 2-chloro-6-methyl-3-aminophenol, 5-amino-2-methylphenol, 2-amino-3-hydroxypyridine, 2,6-di-(β -hydroxyethylamino)-toluene, 2-methyl resorcinol or 1-naphthol, or combinations thereof.

35. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 18 wherein the oxidative dye precursor comprises at least one secondary intermediate selected [[form]] from 2-chloro-6-methyl-3-aminophenol, 5-amino-2-methylphenol, 2-amino-3-hydroxypyridine, 2,6-di-(β -hydroxyethylamino)-toluene, 2-methyl resorcinol or 1-naphthol, or combinations thereof.

36. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 18 wherein the oxidative dye precursor is oxidized with an oxidizing agent comprising hydrogen peroxide.

37. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 18 wherein the oxidative dye precursor is oxidized with an oxidizing system comprising one or more enzymes.

38. (Currently Amended) A process for coloring hair comprising applying to hair a pretreatment composition comprising at least one substantive dye and at least one fiber-structure-improving agent [[,]] selected from the group consisting of panthenol, one or more physiologically compatible panthenol derivatives, one or more plant ~~extract~~ extracts, honey extracts [[or]] and combinations thereof, and subsequently applying a coloring composition to obtain a uniform color over the length of the hair.

39. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 38 wherein the pretreatment composition is applied to the hair by spraying the pretreatment composition onto the hair.

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40. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 38 wherein the pretreatment composition is applied to only the end portion of the hair.